

15 JUL 1957

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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF

ABERAERON
CARDIGANSHIRE.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

1956

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

Dulyn Thomas, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

D.S. Morgan, C.R.S.I.



To the Chairman and Members of the
Aberaeron Urban District Council.

PREFACE.

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Health Department for the year ended 31st December, 1956. This is my first Annual Report since I took office as your Medical Officer of Health on the 1st October last.

The number of registered live births for the year was seven. This shows a decrease of three on the figure for 1955, and a decrease of thirteen on the 1954 figure. It is less than half the national average (i.e. 5.9 per 1,000 estimated population, compared with the figure of 15.7 per 1,000 for England and Wales). No stillbirth was registered.

The number of registered deaths was twenty-one. This is a decrease on the previous two years, but is greatly in excess of the birth rate. Six deaths were due to cancer, and nine persons died from heart disease. No mother died as a result of childbirth.

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis, but two new cases were notified during the year.

Several cases of infectious disease were notified, including twenty-two cases of measles, and a small outbreak of food poisoning affecting five male adults occurred. The infection was of short-lived duration and was traced to the men having eaten meat sandwiches contaminated with bacillus proteus.

One case of paratyphoid fever was notified. Investigations showed that the infection was contracted whilst the patient, an adult female, was on holiday in Italy.

Inspections were carried out on all the food premises in the town, and

the proprietors have agreed to bring their establishments up to the standard required under the new Food and Drugs Act.

A more detailed account of the work of the Health Department will be found in the ensuing pages, including the report of the Public Health Inspector.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	388
Population (Census 1951).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1229
Population (Registrar General's Mid-Year 1956)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1170
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1956...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£19123
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1957 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£17096
Sum represented by a penny rate 1956/57 ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£79
Estimated sum to be obtained by a penny rate 1957/58..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£69

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

<u>SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS</u>						<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number of registered live birhts	...	...	...	...	Leg:	7	1	6
					Illeg:	-	-	-
Number of registered still birhts	...	...	...	...	Leg:	-	-	-
					Illeg:	-	-	-
Number of deaths of infants under 1 year	..	...	...	...	Leg:	-	-	-
					Illeg:	-	-	-
Number of deaths of infants under 4 weeks	..	...	...	...	Leg:	-	-	-
					Illeg:	-	-	-
Number of deaths of women ascribed to childbirth				...	...	-	-	-
Number of registered deaths	...	...	...	...	...	21	6	15
Areal comparability factor for births		...	...	...	...		1.34	
Areal comparability factor for deaths		...	...	...	...		0.65	

CAUSES OF DEATH

Registrar General's

Code Number

Causes of Death

Number of deaths

Male

Female

Total

1	Tuberculosis, respiratory.....	1	1	2
2	Tuberculosis, other.....	1	1	2
3	Syphilitic disease.....	1	1	2
4	Diphtheria.....	1	1	2
5	Whooping cough.....	1	1	2
6	Meningococcal infections.....	1	1	2
7	Acute poliomyelitis.....	1	1	2
8	Measles.....	1	1	2
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	1	2
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	1	1	2
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus....	1	1	2
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	1	1	2
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	1	1	2
14	Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms.	1	3	4
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia.....	1	1	2
16	Diabetes.....	1	1	2
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system....	3	1	4
18	Coronary disease, angina.....	1	1	2
19	Hypertension with heart disease.....	1	1	2
20	Other heart disease.....	2	4	6
21	Other circulatory disease.....	1	1	2
22	Influenza.....	1	1	2
23	Pneumonia.....	1	1	2
24	Bronchitis.....	1	1	2
25	Other diseases of respiratory system..	1	1	2
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	1	1	2
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea....	1	1	2
28	Nephritis and nephrosis.....	1	1	2
29	Hyperplasia of prostate.....	1	1	2
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.....	1	1	2
31	Congenital malformations.....	1	1	2
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	1	2
33	Motor vehicle accidents.....	1	1	2
34	All other accidents.....	1	1	2
35	Suicide.....	1	1	2
36	Homicide and operations of war.....	1	1	2

Total

6

15

21

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

These are essentially the same as in 1955. The main features are as follows:-

- (a) No ante-natal or post-natal clinic is held in the district by the local health authority. Expectant and nursing mothers receive medical advice from their own practitioners.
 - (b) An infant welfare clinic attended by a medical officer of the local health authority is held once a fortnight.
 - (c) The domiciliary midwifery service is carried out by the district nurse who is also a State Certified Midwife.
 - (d) The Aberaeron Urban District Council area forms part of a much larger area covered by a health visitor of the County Council.
 - (e) Home nursing is in the hands of the district nurse.
 - (f) Vaccination is carried out by the person's own medical attendant, but immunisation against diphtheria is performed partly by the former and partly by medical officers of the local health authority.
 - (g) An ambulance is stationed at New Quay which is used for general and accident work. Fever cases are usually removed by an ambulance earmarked for infectious diseases and stationed at Aberystwyth.
 - (h) Arrangements for the prevention of illness consist in periodic talks and advice by medical officers of both the local health and local authority.
- Care and after care is in the hands of the district nurse and of the health visitor. Tuberculosis cases are also followed up by the Chest Physician's Health Visitor.
- (i) Domestic help is provided by suitable persons who are, as a rule, engaged locally.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following is a list of the notifications of infectious disease, other than tuberculosis, received during the year.

Cholera ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Dysentery (amoebic and bacillary) ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Food poisoning ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Malaria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Meningococcal meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Paratyphoid fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Plague ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Pneumonia (acute primary and acute influenzal)	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Polionyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Relapsing fever .	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Scarlet fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Smallpox ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Typhoid fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Typhus fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Whooping cough ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	-

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows the sex and age distribution of the new cases notified during the year.

AGE GROUP	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 - 1	-	-	-	-
1 - 2	-	-	-	-
2 - 4	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	-	-	-	-
20 - 24	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	-	1	-	-
35 - 44	-	-	-	-
45 - 54	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	-	-	-	-
65 - 74	-	-	-	-
75 +	-	-	1	-
Totals:	-	1	1	-

SECTION 47 OF THE NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

No action was taken under the above enactment which deals with persons who are unable to devote to themselves and are not receiving from other persons proper care and attention.

DULYN THOMAS,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Swyddfa'r Sir,
Aberystwyth.

June, 1957.

ANNUAL REPORT OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR.

I have pleasure in submitting my annual report as follows:

The Surveyor's duties during the year were considerably more than in previous years due to supervision of Sea Defence Works, road works, Harbour works and improvement grants.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

Sewerage.

Part of the Urban District is provided with sewers, the majority of which have outfalls in the harbour and this is a most unsatisfactory arrangement. The outfall has been extended from Dock Bach to the River to improve the conditions in this area.

Closet Accommodation.

Estimated number of Privies with fixed receptacles ...	...	...	186
Estimated number of Privies with moveable receptacles ...	...	...	20
Estimated number of Water Closets ...	...	...	230
Estimated number of Earth Closets ...	...	...	8
Number of conversions - Privy Pits to Water Closets...	...	...	-
Number of conversions - Pail Closets to Water Closets	...	...	8
New houses completed with pail closets ...	...	...	-
New houses completed with water closets ...	...	...	12

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

House and garden refuse is collected once weekly by the Council. The refuse is disposed of by tipping near the sea shore.

Sanitary Inspection of the District.

Number of Inspections of Dwelling houses ..	...	...	...	...	50
Number of Inspections of Dairies ...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Inspections of Bakehouses..	...	...	...	...	2
Number of Inspections of Meat Shops..	...	...	...	...	3
Number of houses visited upon notification of Infectious Disease..	...	...	...	...	1
Number of houses disinfected after infectious disease.	...	...	...	...	1

Notices under the Public Health Act, 1936.

Number of informal notices served ...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of informal notices complied with...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of Statutory Notices served...	...	...	...	...	Nil

No Proceedings were taken during 1956.

Camping Sites.

Number of Sites which were used for camping purposes during the year ...	2
Number of Sites in respect of which licences were issued by the Local Authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936	Nil.
Estimated number of campers in the area at one time during the summer period	20

HOUSING.

Inspection of dwelling houses.

Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health and Housing Acts)	5
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Remedy of Defects without service of formal notices.

Number of houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action	3
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Number of persons on waiting list for houses in area on December 31st, 1956.

Within the District	4
Outside the District	16

Rats and Mice Destruction.

All types of premises were visited and where necessary advice and poison baiting was carried out.

Food Poison.

There was one case of Paratyphoid and five cases of food poisoning caused by eating meat sandwiches contaminated with *bacillus proteus*.

Articles of food which were examined and found to be unfit for human consumption.

Corned Beef	2 Times
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Food found unfit for human consumption was disposed of by burial.

Water Supply.

Regular inspections were made of the source of the urban district's water supply at Cilcennin, and routine samples were submitted for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory in Aberystwyth, all of which were satisfactory.

I should like to thank the Members of the Council and the Staff for the assistance and co-operation they have given me during the year.

DAVID S. MORGAN, C.R.S.I.
MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTOR AND
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

Public Health Department,
26 Alban Square,
ABERAFERON.

